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THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

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Meni ov the cheef liebrariz and lurned Sosietiz ov Europe ar nou subscrieberz tu the publicaishonz, whielst meni ov the best noen literari men and wimen ov the dai hav joind the Club.

THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING

VOL. II, NO. 9. NOVEMBER 1913.

A HED MISTRES'Z APOLOEJIA.

Bi Mis BURSTALL, M.A.

IN atemting tu convai in a short mesij tu the reederz ov THE PIONEER aul the reezonz whi speling reform iz urjentli nesesari, and whi the Simplified Speling Sosieti'z plan iz wurthi ov everi teecher'z consideraishon, not tu sai suport, I am pooting mi hand tu a hard taasc. Wun'z argyuments tumbl oever eech uther in thair huri tu cum tu the frunt, thair ar so meni ov them, and thai ar so strong. Perhaps the best order iz not the lojical, or eeven the profeshonal, but the pursonal. Whi did I becum an adheerent ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti? Breefli, becauz ov the fors ov whot mai be cauld the Impeerial Argyument. The wurld needz a yunivursal langwij. English iz the wun bi far the moest wiedli spoecen in everi continent, in everi port ov the seven seez; the eeziest and simplest in sum respects, the richest in vocabyulari, incluuding boeth Latin and Teutonic elements. Whot iz the wun hindrans tu its yus bi aul siviliezd peepl? Its irashonal, misleeding, and ridicyulus speling, which iz a mor teribl burden and stumbling-bloc tu the foriner than moest English peepl realiez. Wer our tung spelt az it shood be spoecen, liec Italian, it wood becum tu the hoel wurld whot Latin woz for the furst twelv sentyuriz ov the Christian eera—eeven mor. We aut tu be redi tu maic sum sacrifies—tu poot up with a chainj in the apeerans ov the paijez ov boocs and nyus-paiperz—that iz aul the adopshon ov our plan or sum similar sistem wood meen—for the saic ov so grait an internashonal oportyuniti.

So much for the wai in which pursonali I woz convurted tu speling reform. Az in meni anuther cais ov convurshon, thair had been a long seerieez ov ecspeeriensez beloe the threshoeld ov con-shusnes, maicing redi for the resepshon ov the nyu truuth. For yeerz, liec moest ov our profeshon, I had been strugling with the problem ov hou tu impruuv and perfect the speling ov the children for huum I am responsibl, fiending, liec the rest, that yeer by yeer

the dificulti woz graiter and graiter with cleverer pyupilz, or thoez with a good eer, hu az a ruul spelt foneticali, and in consecwens suferd az bad spelerz. Nou I hav cum tu understand the cauz ov aul this dificulti, and hou it haz hapend that we teecherz hav been triing tu fil bucets ful ov hoelz. The mor we taut our children rashonali in uther subjects, the mor we developt thair intelijens, the mor urcsum it woz tu them tu yuz such an irashonal and styupid devies az the standerd speling ov English. This repugnans woz espeshali noetisabl in thoez hu had been taut fonetics, iether in lurning tu reed, for speech training, or for shorthand. We wer pozitivli maicing it harder for theez pyupilz tu spel convenshonali. We wer reali plaising stumbling-blocs in the wai ov our children, az in the wai ov lurnerz ov uther landz, bi insisting on this rong sistem. Cood we rest satisfied in thus injooring thoez for huum we ar responsibl? Cood we caamli goe on stultifiing our best eforts, acwiẹsing in whot we sau tu be a lie?

When eniwun haz cum az far az this in repyudiaishon ov the oeld waiz, the dezier for reform becumz so strong that the caracteristics ov the particyular sistem adopted seem les important than the urjensi ov practical reform, ov combinaishon, joint acshon, ov wining freedom tu leev of duing whot we feel tu be rong. The etimolojical argyument for the prezent stait ov thingz wood not mater, eeven wer it urjd, and not opoezd az it iz, bi eminent filolojists. The "apeerans" objecshon iz seen tu be a meer selfish prejoodis that wun must set asied or oevercum. "Children furst" iz the order that shood transend aul els. We must teech them rashonali, truuli; we must saiv thair preshus scuul-tiem, and refyuz tu waist it on maastering ilojical convenshonz.

In foloing out this prinsip we shal be reworded bi a further benefit—"Wizdom iz justified ov her children"—Truuth and Reezon in Speech. **We English, hie and loe, jentl and simpl, hav shaimfuli misyuzd our muther tung. We speec it wurs than our naiborz duu thairz, just az our speling iz mor irashonal than that ov eni uther wurld langwij. The tuu erorz goe tugether; reforming wun, we shal avoid the uther. We shal teech our boiz and gurlz whot the soundz ov English reali ar—thair delicasi, valyu, and fors. Thus wil our children lurn, thru reformd speling, hou thai shood plai upon that noeblest ov instrooments—the hyuman vois—thru the riet yus ov that misteerius gift ov langwij which iz the pecyuliar atribyut ov hyumaniti.**

MR. SEXTON'Z SCEEM.

A Sceem ov Aproximaitli Fonetic Speling az a First Step tu the Introducshon ov a Lojical Sistem without Dygrafs.

THE cheef diferens between this sceem and that ov the S.S.S. iz that sertin dublets ar euzd so az tu retain meni current spelingz, the main prinsipl being *tu keep az cloasli az posibl tu ordinari formz hwen the sound iz cleer.*

The alfabet iz shoan by the foloing taibl :—

Consonants az in English, exept that *c*, *g*, and *qu* aulwayz sound az in "cat, go, and queen." *Y*, az a consonant, iz oanli euzd inishali, and *f* iz employd in plais ov *ph*.

Vouel soundz ar shoan by the foloing taibl :

"That pen is not much good dry."

a e i o u oo y (*ey* inishali az "eylet").

"Pa	may	all	soon	see	her	boy's	slow	new	cow."
aa	ai	au	uu*	ee*	er†	oi	oa*	eu	ou
ar†	ay	aw			ur†	oy		ew	ow
		or†			ir†				

* *oa*, *ee*, and *uu* may be redeust tu *o*, *e*, and *u* befor a vouel and, if unstrest, at the endz ov werdz, provyded the rezulting sound iz cleer.

† Hwen *ar*, *er*, &c., or *or* haz the short sound, the consonant iz dubld, az "marry = marri," "ferry = ferri," "sorry = sorri."

I may be euzd for the personal proanoun.

1. The employment ov *y* in plais ov *ie* avoidz confeuzhon in hundredz ov werdz, sins the *ie* on the S.S.S. sistem iz caipabl ov being red in three wayz. Moaroaver, by this chainj we retain the *y* in duzenz ov werdz in hwich it iz found in English with the long sound.

2. The eus ov the dublet vowel formz retainz meni wel noan spelingz, avoidz the freequent vowel endingz, hwich ar forren tu our langwij, and obviaits tu a larj extent three vowelz cuming tugether.

3. By employing *oa* in plais ov *oe* current formz ar retaind and the nesesiti ov a dyacritic in such werdz az "poet," ets., iz dun away with.

4. Retenshon ov the comon formz *eu* and *ew* avoidz the eus ov the un-English combinaishon *yu*.

5. Dubling the *r* in *ar*, *or*, ets., distingwishez werdz hwich, acording tu the S.S.S. sistem, ar spelt in the saim way, aultho thay difer in sound.

OBJECSHONZ.—1. The sistem compelz the chyld tu memoryz prezent formz. Tu a sertin extent this iz tru, but a mistaik wood not be seerius, az the sound wood be cleer. Thus, "citen" or "kat" wood be red at syt. Further, reeding ordinari speling wood familiaryz the chyld with the comoner formz.

2. Dificulti wood aryz az tu hwich ov the vowel dublets aut tu be euzd. This cood be met by a simpl ruul that the form ending in a consonant woz tu be employd befor a vowel and fynali, and the uther befor a consonant.

3. The sistem wood taik longer tu lern. Perhaps so; but, on the uther hand, it wood keep the chyld much moar in tuch with prezent spelingz, hwairaz a chyld taut the S.S.S. sistem *oanli* wood probabli not be aibl tu reed ordinari English.

I shood lyk tu heer the opinionz ov my felo-reederz on theez propoazalz, but I wood ask them tu test the sceem by ryting several foalioaz in it and submiting them tu sumwun hu duz not noa enithing about fonetic speling. Remember we hav tu caiter for the averij, or eeven under-averij, man, not for the expert in fonetics.

Tu saiv spais in our smaul jurnal, I shal be quyt wiling tu anser leterz sent direct tu me. My oanli object iz tu fynd out hwich sistem iz reali the moast practical wun. F. M. SEXTON.

Hampton Wick, Kingston-on-Thames.

[We gladli acseed tu Mr. Sexton'z recwest tu poot hiz sceem befor our reederz, for it containz sum points that ar wel wurth considering.

We shood liec tu ecspres our convicshon that Mr. Sexton iz mistaicen in saiing that a chield taut the S.S.S. sistem *oenli* wood probabli not be aibl tu reed ordinari English. We hav egzamind the lists compield bi Rev. J. Knowles (huuz statistics refur tu 100,000 wurdz draun from the Bible and vairius authorz) and bi Mr. R. C. Eldridge (43,989 wurdz draun from nyuspaiperz). We fiend that the ten comonest wurdz ocur so freecwentli az tu maic up about 30 per sent. ov the agregait number ov wurdz; ov theez for ("of, to, is, was") recwier chainj and ar chainjd in S.S. and acording tu Mr. Sexton'z sceem. Taicing the hundred moest comon wurdz acording tu Mr. Knowles, the S.S. form wood be diferent in 54 caisez, Mr. Sexton'z in 49. Taicing the hundred moest comon wurdz in Mr. Eldridge'z list, the S.S. form wood be diferent in 56 caisez, Mr. Sexton'z in 49. Taicing the 238 wurdz ocuring twenti or mor tiemz in Mr. Eldridge's list, the S.S. form

wood be diferent in 131 caisez, Mr. Sexton's in 116. The reeder wil hav tu consider whether the diferens between S.S. and Mr. Sexton's sceem iz sufishentli grait tu justifie us in tacsing the memori ov the chield in the wai he propoezez.

A wurd az tu the proporshon ov wurdz recwiering chainj. It mai seem az tho 55 chainjez out ov 100 wurdz, or 131 out ov 238 (aulso 55 per sent.), wer a sufishent proporshon tu render reeding the bad oeld speling dificult for thoez braut up on a rashonal speling. It must be rememberd that the chainj mai be so sliet az not tu render a wurd hard tu recogniez. It wil hardli be seeriusli maintaind that—selecting from Mr. Eldridge'z 238 wurdz, which maic up 60 per sent. ov hiz agregait ov 43,989 wurdz—a chield acustomd tu "wil, hav, ar, thair, nou, befor, hous, dai, wai, sai, hou, lau" wood hav trubl in reeding "will, have, are, their, now, before, house, day, way, say, how, law." The wurdz that wood giv trubl wood be, for instans, "would, through, should, woman, brought, night, friends"; but eeven such wurdz wood, in moest caisez, be cleer from the contecst. Thai ar freec spelingz, and theez wurdz nesesarili hav a marcedli diferent form in S.S., in Mr. Sexton'z sceem, and, indeed, in eni rashonal speling.

Mienor points tu which atenshon mai be draun ar: the propoezd yus ov *y* and *ey* for S.S. *ie* ("tym, ryd, he syd; eys, eydl"), the yus ov *eu* for *yu* (which haz much in its faivor), the yus ov *oa* for *oe* (a sujestion aulso wurthi ov consideraishon), and the dubling ov *r*, which maics it posibl tu distingwish, *e.g.*, "tarri, marri" (O.S. "tarry, marry") and "tari, stari" (ajectivz tu "tar, star"). Az for the vouel dublets, the ruul sujested (emploi *ay*, *oy*, *ew*, *ow* befor a vouel and fienali) wil leed tu "lay" besied "laiz," "day" besied "daiz," "boy" besied "boiz," "betraying" besied "betraid," "cow" besied "couz," "new" besied "neuz." Mr. Sexton riets "wayz, employd," so he mai intend that inflected formz shood aulso hav *ay*, *oy*, *ew*, *ow*. In that cais we hav "dayz" (pl. ov "day"), but "tu daiz"; "betrayd," but "traid"; "newz," but "refeuz"; "rowz" (pl. ov "row"), but "tu rouz."

In pointing out surtin dificultiz and douts, we ar duing whot iz dezierd bi Mr. Sexton. Thautful atemts liec hiz to solv the problem we ar aulwaiz ancshus tu consider and tu apreeshiait.]

Fonetic rieting iz the oenli meenz we hav ov prezurving our prezent method ov pronunsiaishon.—DR. FURNIVALL.

Hou long wil the English-speecing peepl endyur this absurd slaiveri—that teecherz and scolarz shood spend yeerz ov laborius toil for that which satisfiëth not nor iz considerd comendabl bi edyucaishonists, aul becauz a slaivish, indefensibl iedea iz entertaind that the comon speling prezurvz the etimoloji ov wurdz? Eeven supoezing it did, iz the gaim wurth the candl? When the moest eminent filolojists asurt—and thai hav not been refyuted—that it duz not help them, that thai wood prefur fonetic speling, this vaast ecspendityur ov tiem, laibor, and muni iz unworantabl. An unfeterd miend iz caipabl ov much, but a worpt miend iz oepen tu entertain unmitigaited nonsens and tu be gilti ov grait foli.—H. DRUMMOND.

IT iz lamentabl hou smaul a proporshon ov our scolarz ever advaans beyond the meer ruudiments ov lurning, a surcumstans the mor tu be regreted az thai wil hav tu compeet with thoez forin wurcmen huuz urli edyucaishon woz not waited with an absurd and anticwaited orthografi.—J. H. GLADSTONE.

VOISEZ FROM INDIA.

I.—AN EDITOR'Z APEEL.

I AM heer editing a daili eevening paiper publisht in the naitiv langwij—the Gujarati, which iz wun ov the prinsipal langwijiz ov the Bombay Presidency, a langwij spoecen at leest bi ait milionz ov peepl, consisting ov Hinduz, Mohammedanz, and Parseez. Just az the cwestion ov an internashonal langwij iz ocyupiing the atenshon ov the scolarz ov the West, hu, I regret, seldom taic intu consideraishon the milionz inhabiting the Eest, so, tuu, a yunivursal langwij for India haz been discust heer theez laast tuu decaidz. In India thair ar so meni langwijiz and dialects (I thinc thair ar about three hundred) that a naitiv ov Bombay Presidency, speecing iether Gujarati, Marathi, or Urdu (three prinsipal langwijiz), iz hardli aibl tu convurs with a Madrasi, Telangu, Bengali, or Sindhi, hu ar living, sai, oenli 400, 500, or 300 mielz from hiz naitiv plais. I shood thinc thair iz no cuntri whair the need for a comon langwij and comon script iz so urjent az in India. For comurshal, industrial, soeshal, and political intercors, the advaantijez ov a common tung wil be far graiter in India than in Europe. Public opinion iz in favor ov such a langwij, but we hav been unaibl tu adopt wun langwij for the hoel cuntri becauz claimz ov rieval langwijiz ar so meni and dificultiz ar so vairid that I duu not thinc this problem wil ever be solvd. Just az French iz spoecen, mor or les, aul oever Europe, Hindi iz spoecen or understood oever meni parts ov India, and, if thair iz eni chaans, Hindi miet becum the comon langwij, but the dificulti cumz in the wai ov the script. If sicsti out ov a hundred pursonz can speec and understand Hindi, oenli sics noe hou tu riet it. I am wun ov thoez hu duu not faivor eni ov the Indian langwijez being adopted for a comon purpos. I hav aulwaiz advocaited in mi paiper that, if thair iz eni langwij that wil be and shood be the yunivursal langwij for India, it iz the *English langwij*—the langwij ov our ruuling claas, the langwij ov the ofishal wurld, the langwij ov the corts, the langwij ov the British Parliment, tu which we Indianz looc az the hiëst triebyunal for redres ov India'z greevansez. In spiet ov its inheerent dificultiz, the English langwij iz spoecen and riten bi thouzandz ov Indianz az aibli and efishentli az bi eni English-born scolar. Indianz hav shoen a remarcabl aptityud for lurning the English langwij and its preshus trezherz ov literatyur. The English langwij haz a grait fyutyur in India, and, when our benien British Guvernment maics mas edyucaishon free and compulsori, milionz ov numberz wil be aded tu the 150,000,000 (reconing whiet men aloen) that are nou speecing this remarcabl langwij. Mi object in rieting theez fyu facts iz that yu shood incluud India and its peepl in the muuv-

ment for the reform ov English speling, and yu wil be rendering yoeman survis tu the cauz ov dum hyumaniti in this vaast cuntri if yu wil help them in thair eforts tu spred English edyucaishon in the land.

SORAB P. KAPADIA, Editor ov the "Sant Vartaman."

II.—AN EDYUCAISHONIST'S LETER.

(Theez ecstracts ar from a long and interesting leter just reseevd from Mr. T. A. RAMAIYA, M.A.)

The prinsiplz on which the sceem iz bilt ar so grand in thair simplisiti that thai fail not tu apeel tu everi man ov ordinari comon sens. Thair mai be a diferens ov opinion with regard tu the deetailz, but with regard tu the sceem az a hoel thair can be no tuu opinionz. I am shuur the Indianz apreeshiait truuli the valyu ov the wurc ov the S.S.S. The muuvment reali meenz much for India, az yu sai, and a litl caam tauc never failz tu convins moest ov the Indianz ov the importans ov the muuvment. So yu mai be shuur that yu wil meet with nuthing but support from India. Taicing intu consideraishon oenli the actyual teeching in English langwij and literatyur, an Indian gradyuait spendz mor than for thouzand ourz in scuul and colej in studiing English, and out ov theez for thouzand ourz about wun haaf iz spent in directli or indirectli studiing English speling. Whot a saiving in tiem and enerji wil thair be if the S.S. iz adopted! Oenli the dicshonari maicerz mai grumbl, for mor than a haaf ov the yus ov dicshonariz iz for English speling, and a fonetic speling wil redyus the wair and tair ov dicshonariz tu les than a haaf, and thus tuch the pocets ov dicshonari maicerz. . . .

Let me concluud this raather long leter with the remarc that the mor I thinc ov the subject ov English speling, the mor duu I thinc that the reform shood be introdyust at the urliest oportyuniti. The Sosieti mai rest ashuurd that I wil duu mi best for it and continyu tu bring in mor and mor memberz intu the liet. If I am oenli az sucsesful az I hav been hithertu, **I thinc that I mai be responsibl for at leest a hundred memberz for the Sosieti.**

VOISEZ FROM ACROS THE CHANEL.

CETTE foule de lettres étymologiques que l'on a retranchées de la prononciation, mais que l'on conserve encore en lisant, sont nos anciens habits de barbares que nous avons conservés au milieu des progrès de la civilisation. **L'écriture est la peinture de la voix; plus elle est simple, ressemblante, meilleure elle est.**—VOLTAIRE.

Simplifier l'orthographe, c'est donner des ailes à la pensée.—JEAN BARÉS.

Voici plus de vingt ans que nous expliquons pourquoi honneur n'a pas droit à deux *n*, que ce mot vient du latin *honorem*, et que, régulièrement, honorable, honorabilité, honorablement, honorifique, honorer, honoraire, prennent un *n*; rien n'y fait. Je puis citer le cas d'un professeur de collège classique soutenant en plein XXe siècle, il n'y a guère plus de quatre ans, qu'il faut absolument écrire "honneur," parce que les deux *n* se prononcent. **Et voilà comment on en arrive à vicier la prononciation en la faisant plier aux caprices de l'orthographe.** C'est encore à elle que nous sommes redevables du *p* sonore de sculpter, de dompter. Pensez donc, trois consonnes successives à faire sonner: *lpt*; cela en vaut bien la peine, ce n'est pas comme dans ce trop modeste mot de "doigté" où il n'y en a que deux, et où l'on se contente, par conséquent, de n'en prononcer qu'une.—PROF. LOUIS MOGEON.

Qu'on se mette à la place des maîtres qui ont à expliquer les anomalies de l'orthographe officielle, des enfants qui ont à les comprendre, des colons

et des étrangers qui en cherchent la raison! Chercher la raison qui est au fond des choses, c'est pour tous les esprits un travail fécond. Mais s'enquérir de raisons qui n'existent pas, et finalement être obligé de charger de formes incohérentes la mémoire qui, elle aussi, a sa logique et des limites, **quel labeur plus inutile et plus ingrat**!—O. GRÉARD, *de l'Académie française et de l'Académie des Sciences morales et politiques, V. Recteur de Paris.*

L'orthographe française absorbe à elle seule la moitié du temps consacré à l'enseignement dans les écoles primaires. Elle n'est plus aujourd'hui qu'une fiction mensongère. Quand le public en demandera la réforme, cette réforme se fera.—FRANCISQUE SARCEY.

CORESPONDENS.

MR. L. S. R. BYRNE riets from Eton Colej:

I hav been engaijd in teeching modern langwijiz for a kwauter ov a sencheri and thairfau probabli noetis soundz at leest az kloesli az thoez huuz wurk haz lain elswair, and it seemz tu me that for the moest paat yu reeprodyus the korekt kultivaited pronunsiaishun ov Suthern Inglish with remaakabl fideliti; but never kan I remember tu hav hurd "feetyur, naityur, lektyur, piktyur, sentyuri," ecsept from peepl tu huum korekt speeking iz an efert. Shauli everiwun tu the maner baun reali taucs ov going tu lekchur, looking at pikcherz, and so on? Iz not the speling yu hav adopted in this paatikyuler dyu tu sumwun hu haz oeverstudid hiz oen speech and konsekwentli no longer pronounsez natsherali?

[Opinion—or, raather, feeling—iz much divieded on this cwestion (or cweschun). In meni wurdz in comon yus the majoriti, probabli, pronouns *ch* and not *ty*. This chainj apeerz tu hav taicen plais in the aiteenth sentyuri (or sencheri). Walker, in hiz *Pronouncing Dictionary* (1791), recogniezez the *ch* pronunsiaishon in "nature, creature, feature, fortune," az wel az in "bestial, beauteous, righteous, frontier," whair it iz not ofen hurd nouadaiz. Thair iz sum tendensi nou tu revurt tu the oelder pronunsiaishon. In sum ov the longer and mor literari wurdz it iz comon, *e.g.* in "obituary, judicature, caricature"; aulso in "statue, virtue." But in the comon wurdz "lecture, picture, nature, creature" (which in Browning riemz with "preacher"), the *ch* pronunsiaishon iz ordinarili hurd; and our memberz ar, ov cors, free tu reprezent it in thair speling, until the mater haz been setld bi the Conferens on Standerd Speech for which we ar waiting.

Thair ar several points in Mr. Byrne'z speling that wil interest our reederz. In a subsecwent leter he riets: "Mi oen faather, hu woz a paatikularli kleer and kairful pronounser ov the oeld Oxford skuul, yust tu fiend biter fault with me fau maiking no distinkshon between 'shaw' ['sure'] and 'shore.' Fau the lief ov me, I hav never been aibl tu distingwish them without tauking whot I shood consider tu be eether Scotch au Wessex au, perhaps, American. . . . Nuthing wood perswaid me tu sai 'edzhukaishon,' but I hav hurd it, and, az for 'issue,' I pronouns it 'isyu' in church when I am feeling devout, and 'ishyu' at aul uther tiemz."

Tu emfasiez the variëti ov egzisting yuzij I shood liec tu ad from mi oen obzervaishonz that I hav hurd a distingwisht profesor ov English literatyur sai "natyerel" and "vurtyu," but "literechur"; the Earl ov Derby, "individzhel" and "edzhecaishn"; Mr. Conan Doyle, "endzhuuring"; anuther profesor ov English literatyur, "literechur"; a well noen teecher ov vois producshon, "naityur, isyud," but "culcher, cweschun"; the editor

ov the "Daily News," "literechur"; Mr. P. J. Hartog, "cultyur"; anuther teecher ov vois producshon, "culcher" and "culchuur, individzhual, modzhulait, prodzhuus, literecher."—ED.]

MR. HUGH RICHARDSON, ov Bootham School, York, riets:

Hav yu noetist hou meni ov the nyu *traid naimz* ar spelt foneticali? This fonetic speling ov nyu wurdz iz a veri hoepful feetyur. Just az we bie nyu cloethz from tiem tu tiem—coet, colerz, tie, gluvz, socs, ets.—until at laast aul our cloethz ar chainjd, so aulso, if aul nyu wurdz ar spelt foneticali, in tiem our grait reform wil be carid.

Theez naimz ar culd from mi groeser'z pries list: "zog, virol, melox, plasmon, bovril, vim, sapolio, vinolia, shinio, farola, lemco, oxo, risco, bisto, blanco."

[Traid injenyuiti haz, indeed, been responsibl for aul ciendz ov nyu wurdz. Tu the list given abuv we miet ad the "nuagane" buut polish, the "uneeda" sigar, the "rest-ur-self" chair, and "chilprufe" underwair; and, on the uther hand, "stickphast" paist.—ED.]

Mr. ERNEST A. BAGNALL riets:

I woz sori tu see the *nyu* noet struc in the articl on Sur Harry Johnston'z booc, espeshali az I had just riten a leter tu a loecal paiper vouching for the sweet reezonablnes ov the S.S.S. Duu let us ceep the sweetnes az well az the reezonablnes.

[We ar ancshus tu ceep up our repyutaishon for the cwolitiz which Mr. Bagnall rietli praizez, and we ar glad tu thinc that, at leest until our laast isyu, we hav given no cauz for complaint. But, aafter aul, thair iz such a thing az rieteus indignaishon; and it burnt aul the mor feersli becauz it had been the rieter'z distresing ecspeeriens tu reed sum revyuz ov the booc in cwestion that wer baist on an aultugether insufishent nolej ov fonetics. Our reederz ar natyurali ceenli interested in the subject ov fonetic speling, and we regarded it az our dyuti, in vigorus and unmistaicabl langwij, tu worn them that Sur Harry Johnston woz cwiet inadecwaitli ecwipt for the taasc he had set himself, which maid hiz inacyurait referensez tu the wurc ov the Internashonal Fonetic Asoesiaishon and ov our oen Sosieti aul the mor reprehensibl. We hoep sinseerli that it mai not ofen be nesesari tu striec the noet which on this ocaizhon we felt it incumbent upon us tu striec. We prefur tu be sweetli reezonabl, but thair ar tiemz when the velvet pau mai be misconstruud az a sien ov weecnes and when it iz thairfor beter tu shoe the maild fist.—ED.]

Mr. R. INVREA riets from Turin:

Sum ov our clasical scolarz, hu thinc speling reform tu be a "pestilent heresi" ov reesent yeerz, mai fiend it interesting tu reed the foloing pasij from Suetonius, *Life of Augustus* (87, 3):—

> Orthographiam, id est formulam rationemque scribendi a grammaticis institutam, non adeo custodiit, ac videtur eorum potius sequi opinionem, qui perinde scribendum ac loquamur existiment;

which mai be renderd:

> He (Augustus) did not stic so much tu the orthografi, that iz, the sistem ov speling set up bi gramairianz, but he seemz raather tu hav been ov the opinion ov thoez hu thaut it beter tu riet az we pronouns.

[Presher ov spais maics it nesesari tu hoeld oever several uther interesting leterz that hav been reseevd.]

LOW—NOW—KNOW—SNOW.

IT iz hard for the purson tu huum English iz hiz naitiv tung tu realiez whot a strugl the foriner haz tu understand sum ov the pecyuliaritiz ov our speling and pronunsiaishon. Wun foriner givz in the "Youth's Companion" the foloing descripshon ov hiz furst leson in an English claas:

> We hav been given a booc tu lurn the leterz. I ariev at the claas, having lurnt them purfectli. Suun, in the cors ov the leson, we hav the wurd "low." "Love," I pronouns it, thincing the *w* haz the sound ov *v*. "No; it iz pronounst *lo*," sez the teecher. "Then whi iz the *w* thair?" I incwier mistified. "It iz thair becauz that iz the wai the wurd iz spelt," respondz the teecher, "but it iz sielent. Never miend whi; it iz sufishent tu noe that it iz thair." Befor long we cum tu "now." "Pronouns it," sez the teecher. "*No*," I replie. "Whi wil yu not?" she aascs me. It iz sum tiem befor she understandz that I am triing tu pronouns the wurd when I sai "*No*." Then she declairz that aultho "low" iz *lo*, "now" iz *now*. "If yu wont tu maic it *no*," she ecsplainz ciendli, "yu poot *k* befor it." Yu mai beleev I am bewilderd. Houever, I memoriez that "now" iz *now*. The nyu wurd iz "snow." I pronouns it liec *now* with an *s* befor it. The teecher laafs. The *w* iz again becum sielent, apairentli for no reezon, and the wurd iz cauld *sno*. But that iz not aul. Laiter, I fiend that if yu drop the *n* from "snow" yu can pronouns it whichever wai yu liec!—"Popular Science Siftings."

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 1835.

In conecshon with the Conferens Weec ov Edyucaishonal Sosietiz at the London Yunivursiti in the Nyu Yeer, an oepen meeting ov the S.S.S. wil be held in the West Galeri on Mundai aafternuun, Janyuari 5, at 2.30. Prof. Gilbert Murray wil prezied; Mis Burstall iz tu giv an adres, and Prof. Rippmann wil introdyus a debait on "The Standerdiezaishon ov English Speech." A staitment wil be maid about the yeer'z wurc. On aplicaishon tu the Secretari, voucherz for redyust railwai fairz mai be obtaind. A tiem-taibl ov the Conferens meetingz iz being sent out tu aul our memberz.

AT the moement ov going tu pres the voeting on *C v. K* standz: 234 voets for *K*, 88 for *C*. Cardz ar stil cuming in. In our necst isyu *k* wil be yuzd insted ov *c*, tu shoe our reederz whot it loocs liec.

THE Secretari wil be glad tu reseev aplicaishonz for Christmas Cardz. Thai wil be printed in oeld-tiem leterz and aut tu be moest atractiv. Spesimenz can be had at the end ov the munth. The priesez incluud printed naim and adres:

25 for 3s. 50 for 5s. 100 for 9s.

GIV us bac the "three R'z," crie sum Edyucaishon Comitiz stil. In hiz booc on *Modern Views on Education*, Prof. Thiselton Mark sez: "The bair acwizishon ov the three R'z, which iz tuu ofen insisted upon, iz comparabl tu

the starving burd'z pozeshon within its stumac ov bits ov grit and sand swoloed tu aid its dijestion, but with no fuud for the instrooments ov dijestion tu wurc upon." The oeld speling iz grit, not fuud.

In the saim ilyuminaiting booc Prof. Mark givz a sumari ov the speech ov Curnel Parker, the grait American edyucaishonist, at a meeting in 1900 tu selebrait the twenti-fifth anivursari ov the "nyu edyucaishon" muuvment in the United States. The furst sentens iz significant: "The speling booc woz laid upon the shelf." Much can foloe when that enlietend deed iz dun.

From Mr. R. C. Eldridge, Niagara Falls, N.Y., we hav reseevd a booc ov which he iz the author: "Six Thousand Common English Words: their Comparative Frequency and What Can Be Done With Them." We compliment Mr. Eldridge on hiz cair and industri. In List 5 "the, of, and, to, in, a," ar at the top. We miet repeet the lait Prof. Skeat's chalenj: "Whot ov the etimoloji ov theez wurdz?" Thai ocur a hundred tiemz tu the wuns ov, sai, "contemplate" or "illustrate." But hu cairz about *thair* histori? It iz a good test tu trie on the uphoelder ov the etimolojical baner.

Scuulboiz at Fochabers, N.B., discust speling reform. "An interesting our woz spent," riets the maaster. Ten voeted for the oeld, nien for the nyu—which iz good, considering that the maaster woz prezent. Mr. H. B. Thompson sendz uz a scuulboi'z leter riten in the nyu wai acording tu the liet that iz in him. "I shood thinc," he sez, "that the S.S.S. wood profit bi distribyuting its boocs at aul public scuulz, az that wood at leest cindl sum sort ov interest." We welcum intu membership Maaster Gordon Stevens, ov Brighton. "I am oenli fifteen yeerz ov aij, but I thinc yu wil fiend that I hav enthyuziazm. I agree tu yuz the speling on aul posibl ocaizhonz, ecsept when shorthand iz preferabl." The scuulz, at eni rait, ar whiet unto harvest.

A leef out ov a scuul diari: "Tudai I tooc tuu boiz asied for a speling leson. The boocs wer fienli ilustraited, and we antisipaited a reali delietful tiem. But alas! theez three spelingz wer on the furst paij: 'one,' 'gone,' 'bone.' I gaiv the pronunsiaishon ov 'one,' and the boi on mi left began tu reed 'gone' az 'g-wun.' Further ecsplanaishon; then 'bone,' which woz red az 'bon.' Thoez ladz began tu regard the reeding booc, I am shuur, az a trap gilded with pictyurz."

"It mai interest yu tu heer that mi yungest claas—aijez, fiev tu seven—cood reed with eez our scuul song in Latin aafter les than sics munths' teeching in soundz, whiel thai hav stil dificulti in reeding an English booc, containing oenli familiar wurdz. Meni English wurdz ar stil gest; indeed, it iz imposibl tu maic hedwai without wincing at this practis."—This aulso iz from a scuul log-booc.

The Deen ov St. Paul'z, a wiez obsurver ov hiz aij, and ofen, on that acount, refurd tu az "The Gluumi Deen," sed, in a reesent lectyur: "The egzaminaishon sistem haz dun mor than enithing els tu poizon the edyucaishon sistem ov this cuntri. It haz afected aul teeching from the aij ov ten tu twenti-tuu. The memori, when moest retentiv, woz loeded with baren facts, and, when the egzaminaishon woz oever, the miend, so long draun tiet liec an oeverstrung boe, sprang bac, and veri ofen flung awai a grait deel ov whot had been laboriusli lurnt." Ov the dedli sistem, the insistens on convenshonal speling iz a part.

"I sing the Man, I sing the Plow."

Thus began Mr. Maurice Hewlett's poem in the "Westminster Gazette." We wunder the pruuf-reeder paast that fienal speling. Shuurli Mr. Hewlett iz ieconoclastic. The '-ugh' iz pictorial: the crunch ov the plou-shair, the terified escaip ov creeping thingz ar draun for us in that triniti ov leterz! Whot materz if the sound ov the *gh* began tu be lost in the forteenth sentyuri?

"AULMOEST everi dai I aasc my pyupilz hou surtin wurdz shood be speld—'rough,' 'thought,' &c. Nien tiemz out ov ten the spelingz thai giv ar thoez ov the S.S.S.—not that thai hav red them in the paiperz, but **becauz thai ar so natyural.**"

JOHN P. SCHUYLER sau thingz and had *ague*,
And thaut hiz complaint woz the *plague:*
But medsin he *swallowed*,
Got beter, and *allowed*
He'd join a teetoetal *league*.

THAT faimus oeld man with a *beard*
Tu hiz aiviari sed: "I hav *heard*
That yur nests ar the *snuggest*,
But prai mai I *suggest*,
Yu fiend uther siets than mi *beard*."

MR. ERNEST CAVE riets from Uxbridge: "I fiend THE PIONEER a moest purci and penetraiting litl pamflet, and am paasing it on tu the editor ov our loecal paiper, hu promisez tu print a fyu lienz weecli in S.S. . . . Perhaps eech member miet prevail on *wun* editor tu print regyulari a fyu lienz weecli (or daili or munthli) in simplified form." And we wood ad tu this ecselent sujestion that loecal editorz ar redier tu giv eer tu a wurd from wun ov thair reederz than tu a recwest from a distant ofis.

SUR FREDERICK POLLOCK riets in referens tu the noet in September about *Kelly's Handbook:* "'Honor' iz not American, but Lerden'z speling in 'Titles of Honor,' or, at eni rait, the Restoraishon printerz ov ed. 1672, which iz mi copi."

IN a speshal articl in the "Teachers' World" Mr. CLOUDESLEY BRERETON sez: "Mor than eni naishon the French realiez the pouer ov the spoecen wurd for reeching and rouzing the emoeshonz. Sielent reeding, so ofen the tuchstoen ov the English critic, seemz tu the Frenchman an incomprehensibl, or, at best, hieli incompleet wai ov testing poëtri and eeven proez." **The restoraishon ov the spoecen wurd tu its truu throen**: that iz speling reform.

"I SHOOD sai that the comon 'I'll let you know' aulredi waiverz between *letchuno* and *letcherno*. A Professor ov English, taucing tu me the uther dai in St. John'z Garden, sed *audjins* or *orgins* for "audience," and, when I imeediaitli maid a pensil noet ov it, he wunderd whot I woz duing, and when I toeld him he denied that he cood posibli hav sed it." The cwotaishon iz from Dr. Bridges. This degradaishon in *speech* it iz tu which hiz booc caulz atenshon. When the oeld crie iz raizd about murdering the muther tung, the aanser iz that it iz such murder that fonetic speling iz ment tu chec.

"ORANGE, dairy, dungeon, porcelain": theez ar spelingz which mai be cept in miend when the etimolojical argyument lifts up its vois. Cari the chalenj intu the adversari'z camp.

"THE moest Shakespearean thing out ov Shakespeare." This woz Rossetti'z coment on reeding Charles Wells'z wundrusli byutiful poëm, "Joseph and his Brethren." But Mr. Watts-Dunton telz us that Charles Wells woz not orthodocs in hiz speling. Niether woz William Morris. The New York "Sun" recordz that Esther Johnson, Deen Swift's "Stella," tho a wooman far abuv the averij in lurning and acomplishment, woz an anarcist orthografical. Heer ar a fyu spelingz on which Swift raliz her: "Wigg (for "Whig"), villian, phamplet, strainger, rediculous, aboundance, aile (for "ale"), immagin," ets. But eeven Addison speld "been" "bin."

IN a reesent Sivil Survis egzaminaishon wun ov the subjects doun for the esai woz "The Advaantijez and Disadvaantijez ov a Speling Reform." We hoep that candidaits insisted that reviezd speling standz for intelijens—a cwoliti needed in aul Guvernment Departments.

WE acnolej with plezher the reseet ov the Calendar ov the Provinshal Normal Colej, Truro, Nova Scotia. It iz ecsplaind that "the departyurz from tradishonal speling found in theez paijez ar in acord with the recomendaishonz ov the Simplified Speling Bord." On paij 26 it iz remarct that "the Normal Colej iz not authoriezd tu enfors the reformd orthografi ov the Speling Sosietiz, but that it regardz it az within its provins tu ceep its styudents abrest ov the prezent wiedspred muuvment for reform ov the cumbrus and waistful sistem inherited from an il-informd paast."

LOS OV 1,428,149,254 SCUUL-DAIZ.—The Bord ov Traid report on striecs and loc-outs for 1912 shoez that 40,915,000 daiz wer lost bi wurcmen in that yeer. The British boi haz tu spend, on an averij, 2320 ourz in lurning tu spel; the German boi lurnz hiz speling in 1302 ourz. The diferens, reconing 5 ourz a scuul dai, iz oever 203 daiz. Multiplied bi 7,035,218, the number ov children atending scuulz in England and Wales, thair iz a los ov 1,428,149,254 scuul daiz. A big ofering tu poot on the shrien ov custom!

LECTYUR LIST.

LECTYURZ for the necst for weecs ar:

November 14.—Clapham Dai Training Colej. Prof. Rippmann.
,, 15.—Harrow "Fifty" Club. Prof. Rippmann.
,, 19.—Derby P.N.E U. ,, ,,
,, 21.—Lowestoft N.U.T. ,, ,,
,, 24.—Kettering Literari and Debaiting Sosieti. The Secretari.
,, 24.—County Hall, Spring Gardens. Prof. Rippmann.
,, 25.—Stepps. Mr. James D. Roberton.
,, 27.—Carmarthen Training Colej. Prof. Rippmann.
,, 27.—Incorporaited Fonografic Sosieti (London). The Secretari.
,, 29.—Bradford N.U.T. The Secretari.
Desember 5.—Normal Colej, Bangor. Prof. Rippmann.
,, 6.—Anglesey County N.U.T. ,, ,,
,, 10.—Widnes N.U.T. ,, ,,
,, 13.—Incorporaited Sosieti ov Shorthand Teecherz (St. Bride'z Instityut, E.C.). Mr. William Archer.

We inviet memberz in the districts naimd tu atend.

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L. M. Spalding, Avery Hill Training College, Eltham.
C. Withers, 2 Watergate Square, Chester.
E. Williamson, 16 Garden Lane, Chester.
Ellen Wood, 3 Kedleston Road, Leicester.

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D. H. Boyle, The College, Chester.
R. A. Thomas, The College, Chester.

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Edgar Hook, The College, Chester.
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C. Keay, Christow Street School, Leicester.
H. Lockett, 15 Saughall Road, Chester.
F. Barnes Lott, 7 Stoneygate Avenue, Leicester.
Robert Manifold, Saltney, Chester.
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H. Naylor, The College, Chester.
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Leonard Pearce, 11 Albion Street, Chester.
A. Pearson, 69 Granton Road, Everton, Liverpool.
F. Pendlebury, Church View, Higher Sutton, Macclesfield.
Peter A. Pogne, Box 143, Lindsay, Ontario, Canada.
James Skeldon, Victoria Road School, Chester.
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Walter B. Summer, 11 Chichester Street, Chester.
John Thomas, "Penlan," Trecynon, Aberdare.
R. Randolph Thompson, Broomberry Villa, Barrhill Road, Gourock, Scot.
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F. J. Tunstall, Kelsall School, Chester.
F. Walsh, Carnarvon, Cape Province, South Africa.

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K. Mangesh Rao, B.A., L.T., 2/16–20 Partasaradiswami Street, Triplicane, Madras, S.E.

[Mis Horrel, ov Peterboro'z, naim woz rongli speld in the laast PIONEER. It shood be az nou printed.]

"MUNSEY'S MAGAZINE" points out that the "natyural" ruul ov speling wood enaibl wun tu riet doun the naim ov a beverij in tuu waiz—"c-o-f-f-e-e" or "k-a-u-p-h-y."

PRES CUTINGZ OV THE MUNTH.

Octoeber.

"ENGLISH AZ AN INTERNASHONAL LANGWIJ," bi Prof. Rippmann, woz publisht in the foloing Indian paiperz: **Baluchistan Gazette, Bombay Chronicle, Bombay Gazette, Burman Civil and Military Gazette, Indian Social Reformer, Indian Spectator, Madras Mail, Madras Standard, Rangoon Gazette.**

SPESHAL ARTICLZ ON SPELING apeerd in **Ayr Observer, Brechin Advertiser, Bournemouth Visitors' Directory, Cork Constitution, John o'Groats Journal, Isle of Man Daily News, Largs and Millport Weekly News, Montrose Standard.**

ARTICLZ ON OR REFURING TU S.S. wer printed in: **Brain Power, Cork Examiner, Journal of Education, School World, Leicester Mail, Lincoln** (Nebraska) **Schoolmaster, Schoolmistress, Teachers' Times, Times Educational Supplement.**

LETERZ ADVOCAITING S.S. apeerd in: **Aberdeen Free Press, Birmingham Gazette Border Standard, Cambridge Review, Daily Mail** (Overseas Edition), **Darwen News, Durham Chronicle, Edinburgh Evening Dispatch, Education, Educational News, Educational Times, Evening Standard, Everyman, Fife Herald and Journal, Forfar Review, Glasgow News, Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser, Helensburgh News, Jedburgh Gazette, John o'Groat Journal, Leeds Mercury, Leicester Mail, Leinster Express, Leith Burghs Pilot, Liverpool Post, London Teacher, Lytham Times, New Age, North Mail, Northern Echo, Northern Scot, Popular Science Siftings, Schoolmaster, South Africa, South Wales News, Southern Star, T.P.'s Weekly, Westminster Gazette, Western Morning News, Woolwich Pioneer.**

PRONUNSIAISHON AND SPELING woz discust in the **Daily News and Leader.**

LETERZ ATACING S.S. apeerd in: **Evening News, Western Morning News.**

S.S. LECTYURZ wer reported in: **Bristol Times, Chester Courant, Chester Observer, Durham Chronicle, Schoolmaster, Western Independent** (Devonport), **Western Press** (Bristol), **Worcester Daily Times.**

The Star, bi H. G. Wells, woz printed in the **Fifeshire Advertiser, Isle of Wight Chronicle, Partick Gazette.**

EDITORIAL NOET.

THE PIONEER iz publisht everi munth, ecsept for tuu munths in the sumer. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

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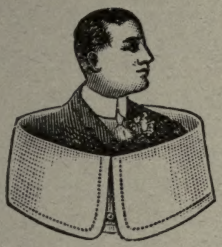

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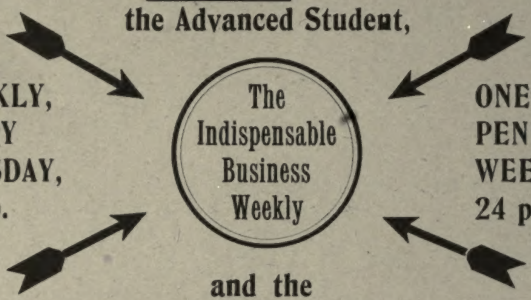

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